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Question Time: Discrimination against prospective adoptive parents?

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs controversial law Thursday

**By Rob Burgess
Kokomo Tribune**

[**Editor's note:** To participate in future queries, keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook accounts.]

On Thursday, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signed a controversial piece of legislation which will have major implications for those wishing to adopt in that state.

"The ACLU is already looking at options to challenge laws, signed Gov. Snyder Thursday, that will allow faith-based adoption agencies in Michigan to refuse to serve prospective parents, like same-sex or unmarried couples, if doing so would violate the agencies' religious beliefs," reported Kathleen Gray of the Detroit Free Press on Thursday. "The decision came after the bill was placed on the Senate's agenda at the last minute — and with no notice Wednesday — passed and quickly concurred in by the House of Representatives."

So, we wanted to know: "What do you think of this legislation? Why?"

Your answers

“I think it's pretty sad to deny a child — essentially an orphan — the security of parents and a loving home based on religion. The child's best interest is completely negated by beliefs of what is wrong and what is right — which, in essence, is wrong to do.” — **Megan Marschand Pierceall**

“Ignorant. It's not the 1950s anymore. Let people live their lives. If they want to adopt a child then so be it. Better than the child sitting in an orphanage.” — **Blair and Drew Williams**

“Why should straight couples be the only ones to be able to adopt? They aren't any more qualified than single or gay/lesbian couples. It's just another attempt at discrimination from the narrow-minded, Bible-thumping Christians who are more worried about what is said in a book, than actual human emotions and wellbeing of children. I mean what would happen if a straight couple adopts, then 6 months later they break up and one of them comes out as being gay or lesbian? Would the state try to remove the adopted child just because the couple is no longer together and one of them is no longer a heterosexual? It's stupid and ignorant all around.” — **Scot Sink**

“Disgusting people can't let this hatred go instead of using it as an attempt to further their political career! With all of Michigan's problems you would think there were more pressing problems!” — **Greg Seagrave**

Our answers

“I think that it is ridiculous! Why do people feel the need to meddle in everyone else’s lives? My very best friend of 30 years and her life partner adopted a child together and have done wonders in that child’s life. ... It is 100 percent pathetic that people can’t live and let live. Somebody, somewhere always wants the say-so on someone else’s life. To quote a line from a popular song on the radio, ‘mind your own biscuits and life will be gravy!’ Better yet, why don’t we worry less about discriminating against certain lifestyles and figure out how to keep these women who keep having unwanted babies from reproducing over and over, and the crackhead and meth heads giving birth to drug addicted babies who need to be adopted by loving homes. Come on, get real, solve the real problems.” — **LaRie Myers**

“‘We are focused on ensuring that as many children are adopted to as many loving families as possible regardless of their makeup.’ This is the quote from the Gov. after signing a bill that is designed to stop family from adopting if their case [worker] does like their religion, their marital status, or the person they love.” — **Alicia Eltzroth**

“This is a sticky subject for many reasons. When it would come to a single parent the only reason to deny them service is if they couldn’t provide the necessary care that the child needs, which can be easily found out. When it comes to LGBT couples however I can understand why a faith based organization would deny them service. I am not against social justice and

making sure that everyone has their rights, but if a LGBT couple wants to adopt there are plenty of places that will provide the service, which is where they should go. Just as LGBT people have their rights, so do the faith-based people of our nation.” — **Nathan Harvey**

“This proves the moral bankruptcy of this entire way of thinking. These people are so concerned about the prospect of LGBT parents they are willing to deny a child a loving home. How pathetic. I’ll bet these same organizations that will use this law are against abortion as well. If they want these children to be born, why are they trying to stop people from adopting them who are perfectly capable and willing to take care of them? What are they so worried about? Do they think these LGBT parents will somehow ‘turn’ these children gay? If that’s what they are concerned with, maybe they should stop allowing straight parents to adopt as well since most LGBT had straight parents. Pure insanity.” — **Rob Burgess**

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